

IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (Currently amended) A process for producing a synthetic fiber fabric having a translucent ~~printing (dyeing)~~ pattern thereon, comprising

printing a paste comprising a transparent printing developer onto a surface of the fabric to form a printed fabric with a printed pattern thereon,

~~a printing step prior to an etching step, wherein the printing step comprises printing a paste for dyeing and/or printing comprising a transparent printing developer onto a surface of the fabric~~

and, after formation of the printed pattern, treating the printed fabric with an etching agent that, upon contact with and acceleration by the transparent printing developer, forms the translucent pattern on the fabric.

2. (Original) A process according to claim 1, wherein said transparent printing developer is quaternary ammonium salt.

3. (Currently amended) A process according to claim 1, wherein ~~an~~ the etching agent ~~used in the etching step~~ is sodium hydroxide, sodium hydrogen carbonate or sodium carbonate.

4. (Withdrawn) A synthetic fiber fabric having translucent printing patterns thereon.

5. (Withdrawn) A synthetic fiber fabric according to claim 4, which is produced from

the process of for producing a synthetic fiber fabric having translucent printing (dyeing) patterns thereon, comprising a printing step prior to an etching step, wherein the printing step comprises printing a paste for dyeing and/or printing comprising a transparent printing developer onto a surface of the fabric.

6. (New) A process for producing a translucent pattern on a synthetic fiber fabric, comprising the steps of:

(a) printing a paste comprising a transparent printing developer onto a surface of the synthetic fiber fabric to form a printed pattern thereon;

(b) treating the printed fabric of step (a) to bond the paste comprising the transparent printing developer to the surface of the synthetic fiber fabric; and

(c) treating the printed fabric with an etching agent;

whereby the transparent printing developer accelerates the etching agent thereby forming the printed pattern into the translucent pattern on the synthetic fiber fabric.

7. (New) A process according to claim 6, wherein said transparent printing developer is quaternary ammonium salt.

8. (New) A process according to claim 6, wherein the etching agent is sodium hydroxide, sodium hydrogen carbonate or sodium carbonate.

9. (New) A process according to claim 6, wherein the transparent printing developer is 1 to 50 weight percent of the paste.

10. (New) A process according to claim 9, wherein the transparent printing developer is 3 to 15 weight percent of the paste.

11. (New) A process according to claim 6 further comprising the step of drying the printed fabric after the printing step (a).

12. (New) A process according to claim 6, wherein the treating step (b) comprises the step of drying the fabric at a temperature from 50°C to 210°C.

13. (New) A process according to claim 6, wherein the treating step (b) comprises the step of fixing the fabric at a temperature from 100°C to 210°C.